



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Hopewell Culture News Release

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Hopewell Culture National Historical Park = visitors, money and jobs for local economy

CHILLICOTHE, Ohio – A new National Park Service (NPS) report shows that more than 33,000 visitors in 2010 spent \$1.18 million in Hopewell Culture National Historical Park and in communities near the park. That spending supported 17 jobs in the local area.

“Visitors from near and far come to Hopewell Culture National Historical Park to learn about significant ceremonial centers built by Native Americans nearly two thousand years ago,” park superintendent Jennifer Pederson Weinberger said. “The Chillicothe area was a major center of the Hopewell Culture with dozens of earthworks and mounds built in Ross County.”

Today the local economy benefits from visitors to Hopewell Culture National Historical Park. Most of the spending/jobs are related to lodging, food and beverage service (52 percent) followed by other retail (29 percent), entertainment/amusements (10 percent), gas and local transportation (7 percent) and groceries (2 percent).

The figures are based on \$12 billion of direct spending by 281 million visitors in 394 national parks and nearby communities and are included in an annual, peer-reviewed, visitor spending analysis conducted by Dr. Daniel Stynes of Michigan State University for the National Park Service.

Across the U.S., local visitor spending added a total of \$31 billion to the national economy and supported more than 258,000 jobs, an increase of \$689 million and 11,500 jobs over 2009.

To download the report visit <http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/products.cfm#MGM> and click on *Economic Benefits to Local Communities from National Park Visitation and Payroll, 2010*.

The report includes information for visitor spending at individual parks and by state.

For more information on how the NPS is working in Ohio, go to <http://www.nps.gov/ohio>

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